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KAZAKHSTAN

SUCCESS STORY

Potable Water Comes to Homes

With USAID support, a community brings potable water to their homes.



Saule community imam Tair Jusupov, Shymkent City, Kazakhstan. Photo: USAID

“I have been living here for 18 years and we never had water in our homes. It was not until USAID program came to Saule that any progress was made.”

- Saule Imam Tair Jusupov

The Saule community in Shymkent City, southern Kazakhstan, now has potable water in their homes for the first time ever thanks to support from the USAID Community Action Investment Program.

Saule residents include Internally Displaced Persons and Kazakh ‘Oralmans’ (returnees) from Afghanistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The 6000-strong community lived on contaminated land of a former hydrolysis factory. For years, they had to bring water from miles and miles away, and could not find a solution to their problem. “Several times in the past we attempted to do it ourselves but were unsuccessful because of lack of resources,” says Saule Imam Tair Jusupov. “It was not until the USAID program came to Saule that any progress was made.”

The USAID program developed a project to construct a potable water supply for the community and provided the initial funding for its implementation. The city akimat and the water department contributed part of the funding, and the community members raised nearly third of the project’s costs. Over the next five months, the \$123,000 project installed more than 67 kilometers of plastic pipes that now brings water to more than 850 houses within the community.

“We are overjoyed,” says Saule’s imam on behalf of his community. “I have been living here for 18 years and we never had water in our homes.”